THE DISPATCH

Richmond Times-Dispatch Entered January 27, 1995, at the Post Office at Richmond, Va., as second-class matter.

PUBLISHED every day in the Year at 10 South Tenth Street, Richmond, Va., by the Times-Dispatch Pub-Hisbing Co., Inc., Charles E. Hasbrook, Editor and Manager.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS to The Times-Dispatch, and not to individuals.

TELEPHONE: Randolph 1. Private Branch Exchange connecting with all departments.

SPECIAL ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVES: Has-brook, Story & Brooks, Inc., Fifth Avenue Build-ing, New York, Matual Life Building, Philadelphin; Peoples' Gas Building, Chicago.

WASHINGTON OFFICE: 716 Fourteenth Street, N. W.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES IN ADVANCE, by mail: Jany and Subday, one year, So.00; 6 months, 83.00; 1 months, 83.00; 1 months, 84.00; 5 months, 84.00; 1 months, 84.00; 1 months, 84.00; 1 months, 85.00; 6 months, 85.00; 6 months, 86.00; 3 months, 50 cents; 1 month, 25 cents, 10 months, 86.00; 3 months, 50 cents; 1 month, 25 cents BY LOCAL CARRIER SERVICE: Daily with Sunday, 15 cents a week; Daily without Sunday, 10 cents a week; Sanday only, 5 cents.

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1915.

In the Discharge of Their Duty

P ERHAPS because of the Anglo-Saxon passion for individual liberty, our people are prone to laugh at the policeman. The discomfiture of uniformed "coppers" is an unfailing source of amusement on movie screens, and in real life a crowd dearly loves the sight of a policeman being manhandled by a drunk. It's fun for the crowd, but the thought of those two men who were shot in South Richmond on Saturday, while in the ordinary discharge of their duty, should bring even the funloying crowd to a realization that life frequently is very hard on the policeman. For what occurred Saturday was all in the day's work of any policeman.

If the European war has done nothing else, it has kept Cip. Castro in the background.

Chinese Titles, With a String

E MPEROR YUAN has gone back to first principles to make certain his seat on the throne of China, modifying those principles by ways and tricks which are neither dark nor vain, though he is a "heathen Chinee." Following the example of the Kings of the Middle Ages, he is fortifying himself by the creation of a lot of nobles, who in all common, feudal fairness will be expected to rally to his banner in time of trouble

But-and here the Emperor shows the sort has made the titles conferred on his nobles hereditary "as long as the government lasts." It is fair to assume that even an ancestorhappens to be himself. Therefore, he will

a Substitute for Turkey

if of the horrors of war that struck Engand this Christmas was a woeful shortage in the supply of turkeys, hitherto imported in large numbers for the joyous Yuletide from Austria, Russia, Italy and France. The war prevented that, and the piece de resistance at the Christmas feast was just plain

trifele, but they should be pitied, not censured. For the true American bird, that has browsed in the cornfields and under the chestnut trees of autumn, that has been fattened in preparation for its stately exit from this vale of tears, that has been slain in the reverent spiril of sacrifice, stuffed with a dressing compounded of country sausage and roasted gently to a golden and luscious brown, there can be no substitute.

A goose is a weak and poor imitationand he is also a goose who dares assert the

Tranquillity would be an unspeakable blessing to Mexico. St. Louis Globe-Democrat. But Mexico wouldn't know what to do with anything that is unspeakable

"Anything to Beat Wilson!"

D EVELOPING the "anything to beat Wilon" theory to its last bitter analysis, the Republican seekers after available timber appear to land usually in reach of the lariat noose of Colenel Theodore Roosevelt. Already Professor Muchsterberg, of Harvard, has indorsed him as the candidate of the German-American protest against the President's foreign policy, and the New York Tribune, which takes exactly the contrary view of that policy, proposes him as the standard-bearer of all those who think this nation should be at war with the Kniser.

Judge Gary has had another of the celebrated "Gary dianers," at which the Colonel was applauded enthusiastically as a proper and sympathetic champion of the interests ithe rood judge represents. If Colonel Roosewell now can obtain for himself the support of Chairman Walsin of the Federal Commission on Industrial Relations, the necessary antithesis to the Gary cohorts will have been

Of course, it may be a little difficult to reconcile all these conflicting emotions and passions, but for an old hand like the Colonel ought not to be at all impossible.

Judge Rea Lindsey, of Denver, is remaining with the Ford peace purty, under an agreement by which Ford compensates him for his lecture tour. The number has some The public has some-Ching to thank Honey for

No Discussion About Aucona Case.

N declining to enter into oral discussion of the Ancona affair with Baron Zwiedinek. have a chance at the job if the war continues. Austrian charge d'affaires, Secretary Lansing is clearly right. There is nothing to discuss. All the facts of the case have been admitted in evidence, so to speak, by the official Austrian report of the circumstances under which the Ancons was sunk. As this government noble animal will soon displace the autohas said, further details are not essential.

As suggested in the news dispatches, it may be that Baron Zwiedinek is authorized

destruction of the Ancona and its consequent loss of American lives. Granting that, however, further discussion would still be unjustifiable. To Austria it would be highly satisfactory, because it would give her diplomacy an opportunity to evade a direct answer to the last American note, to avoid an open rupture with this country by refusing to accede to its reasonable demands, while at the same time it would "save its face" by not yielding to those demands.

In effect, the last note to Austria-Hungary was an ultimatum, and it should remain that. literally the last word. This last word was a simple question addressed to Austria-"This we demand. What are you going to do about it?"

Even a crowned head should be careful in making dinner dates. A year ago the Kaiser planned to eat his Christmas repast in Paris. and the Czar all but had a table reserved in Berlin. This year finds them more remote from their expectations than ever. Well, Kings, Emperors, et al., here's hoping that all of you may sit down somewhere together in the Christmas of 1916, and that the United States will be your Santa Claus.

Joint Upholders of the Law

M OST notable and important from the popular viewpoint of all the many subjects to be discussed at the second Pan-American Scientific Congress, which convenes in Washington, to-day, is that of the law of nations. The purpose of the Pan-American Institute of International Law, which will hold its sessions as a section of the congress. is to codify accepted principles and obtain for such a codification the formal assent of all the governments on this hemisphere.

Cynics and skeptics, with the lessons of the great European conflict before their eyes. will not give this program their approval or encouragement. They will point to the indubitable fact that in the war now being waged "accepted principles" that had received at The Hague the indorsement of the present belligerents have been ruthlessly ignored by one or another of them, and in some cases by them all. The cynics will not restrain the suggestion that the excuses proffered for these admitted violations have been based on charges that an enemy belligerent was the earlier offender, and that departures from The Hague conventions were justified by the law of reprisals and the instinct of selfpreservation.

There is manifest force in these objections. but they are by no means controlling. International law, especially as it is designed to conserve neutral rights, has had at least one stanch upholder throughout the whole conflict. The United States has made itself the champion of neutral privileges and immuni-It has protested, with a vigor and emphasis commensurate with the offense, against every violation that has affected its citizens. of folly of which a fox might be proud-he and soon or late, through an international court of arbitration or otherwise, the wrongs so perpetrated will be redressed.

It will add strength to the American postvershiping Chicese leves a lord as dearly as | tion if it is the position of all America. er Thackeray did, especially if that lord | Everything that brings the republics of the South into closer relations with this nation use his best efforts to the end that the gov- | fortifies our domestic situation and our forernment shall last, else he lose his fordliness, eign policy, and nothing will be more fruitful Post old Yuan! He seems to have no of such results than acceptance of a common code of international morals.

Woodrow Wilson has done more than any diight on an automobile is of little of his predecessors for the establishment of man if there is a light head at the steering a real Pan-Americanism. In every way pos--sible he has sought to show the South American countries that their interests were linked inextricably with our own. They would not long endure without the protection that we furnish, but perhaps we should not endure either, as a great and free nation, if we abandoned the Monroe Doctrine before the onslaughts of a selfish European coalition.

Pan-Americanism is a high and noble ideal. It has its difficulties and its dangers, of course, not the least of which is a concept We are aware that some persons regard of civilization and government that is held in goose as satisfactory, and that some be- Latin countries and that differs in some renighted individuals even prefer it to the real spects from our own. The Pan-American Institute of International Law should be able to sweep some of these differences out of the way, or at least to find ground of agreement that all may occupy and from which all may

> It (the Gary dinner) may have been a preliminary rally in the cause of the country's prosperity by a group of the leaders of business upon whom that prosperity ultimately depends in large degree. New York Evening Sun. Then what was Roosevelt doing there?

Why Christmas Was Quiet

IT is possible, of course, that the compara-I tive quietness with which Richmond observed Christmas is attributable to the psychological effect of the European war. The minds of our own people, it is suggested. are turned to sober things by a subconscious realization of the horrors overseas. In support of this may be brought the evidence, constantly accumulating, of clergymen and other religious workers, that the war has caused a revival of religious feeling throughout the world, not only in the countries involved, but in the United States as well

On the other hand, while an awakening of the spiritual conscience might well account for a certain fervor and zeal in the actual observance of the birthday of Christ, particularly in the churches and by church people. the gravity and sobriety that distinguished this Christmas Eve from all others in recent years must be traced to another source.

That source, it may confidently be assumed. is the same from which has sprung that awakened civil conscience which bids fair to better conditions everywhere. Along one line, it has led to an earnest effort to reform and simplify municipal government; along another, it has pointed a stern finger at immoral conditions and has caused them to be cleaned up, and, in still another, it has urged a practical charity that manifests itself, not only in giving, but in correcting.

It is traceable to thinking minds and high ideals working together, in wholesome surroundings, for the common good. In a word, it is corporate sanity.

Greece has another Premier. Premiers in that country seem to be more numerous than ! in any other European country. At the rate at which they have been named in the last few months, every citizen in the nation will

With the European countries that are at war drawing on the United States for horses, and the New York Board of Health sanctioning the use of horseffesh for meat, the mobile as a luxury.

Mexico City to Fight Typhus; Scourge as by his government to promise that there shall , Bad as Serbia's. - News headline. Insatiable be no repetition of such an outrage as the monster! Would not Villa suffice?

SEEN ON THE SIDE

lie sat on the fence at midnight. When the clocks were tolling the hour, Sat there and just would not take flight, While he sang with freedom and power:

"Meow, meow, meow! Oh, where is my love to-hight Meow, meow, meow!

Oh, where is my heart's delight? She's a brindle puss with an ear askew, And one ey's green and t'other's blue, Oh, why won't she come to a heart that's true? Meow, meow, meow!"

Mad foes were on watch that midnight And their windows shot up with a bang; With shoes and with bottles they took sight And the singer was jarred, so he sang:

"Meow, meow, meow!

I feel I had best depart. Meow, meow, meow!

'Tis time I had made a start. And my brindled love will have to wait Another night for her destined mate Twould be wrong, I feel, to hesitate Meow! ouch! -- meow!"

The Pessimist Says:

That Truth dwells at the bottom of a well is really an evidence of her goodness of heart. just before Christmas: "In spite of the alleged She doesn't want to be always meeting people who can never remember where on earth it was they saw her before.

It Takes a Vankee.

My hat off to a Yankee who goes to the Middle West to make money," said a Richmond commercial traveler. "One of those chin-whiskered chaps from Maine went to Kansas not long ago and bought one of those patent cream senarators. He then bought apples and made eider, and he put the eider through the separator and it came out apple-jack strong enough to knock the shoes off a mule. In less than thirty days he had more orders from the drug stores in the State than he can fill in a year."

Grubbs-Are you planning to make any good esolutions? Stubbs-No, I am already pretty well stocked up in that way. You see, I never used those I made last year,

Studies in Osculation.

A woman is known by the kisses she gives It is better to be kissed than kicked.

A quick kiss is like a quick drink-it sharpens the appetite for another. Some women live for kisses; others would die to get them.

A kiss on the cheek is like a partly filled tumbler. It is only half-measure, Finally, brethren, kissing a pretty girl is

Some Protection.

"Don't you think young women nowadays are had less warmly than they used to be?" Their evening gowns "Oh, I don't know. are a bit during, but most of them wear several

Twisted Proverbs.

Small potatoes help to fill up the measure A tough bird in the hand of the cook needs lot of gravy.

A book on the shelf gathers the dust A needle in a haystack is better than one

Being on your guard is better than being under guard. rolling stone lands at the bottom of

Far From It.

"Is Scribbler a literary man?" "No, indeed - he is the author of one of the

Six Best Sellers.

Toasts and Roasts. In giving a toast beware of the roast. Many a man has lost his head by staying

Selfishness in a man cancels any virtues he may possess. If a woman is selfish—we say Navy, whose arrest has already been recorded,

skin deep.

Kindness, a Trace.

He- Can't you find anything pleasant to say about the members of my family? She-Well, I remember they were all opposed to our marriage.

Repenters.

Christmas comes but once a year, With its glad Christmas chimes. But Christmas bills and duns appear For many weary times.

Current Editorial Comment

Prosperity of South

It was just as well that Sec-retary Daniels in his Charleston speech emphasized the fact that and the Sea ly interested in a stronger navy The South's prosperity is linked with the seas. Cotton, lumber and naval stores are products we have raised and sold for years. with the seas It is the foreign market that gives us the money on these products. Ultimately we will have beef to sell and some grain. We have a long coast We have many towns and cities exposed tack from a superior fleet. There is every to attack from a superior fleet.

reason why the South, of all sections, should be tally interested in strengthening the first line of defense. There is as much reason why the both should be vitally concerned with this uestion as there is that the Pacific Coast and East should be interested in preparedness. Montgomery Advertiser. After all that Mexico has suf-Sympathy

fered, an epidemic of typhus fever must come somewhat as an ague after an earthquake; but tha does not lessen the claim on our sympathies of that distracted Mexico

Serious as it is, however, the situation has its whimsical side. General Carranza prodgates a decree of compulsory bathing. Barshops and baths are to be established, and people who look as if they need it will come it for free shaves and free scrubs whether the come in like it or not. This, of course, is somewhat in the vein of mending the trestle after the train has run off the track; still, it prevents the next train from a like disaster. The theory of pre-ventive medicine—that is, of heading off disease clore it gets a start-slowly makes its way into darkest Mexico. Salutary as the results may be, we can only remark that there are countries (which shall be nameless) in which the proposal to institute compulsory bathing would tant signal for a violent counter-revolution.

There has been rejoicing in Unconquered Germany: Austria and Bulgaria
Spirit are glad, and give thanks for victory over a weak nation, of Serbia heaten to its knees and driven

from its soil, while their Turkish ally joins in the general jubilation over the grave of a kingdom. Homes in ashes, desolation everywhere; women and children fleeing faminestricken before the invaders—for these scenes and sights bells peal the loy of the conquerors, shared by their subjects, kneeling in prayerful thankfulness. For it is war's way, in the twentieth century, even as it was in dark ages when the victors knelt to their gods at altars of sacrifice. Now, as then, they leave lands in ruin, but they do not conquer the spirit of the of sacrifice.

people. Driven from their country, the love of it goes with them and keeps them brave of heart, and strong, and true, with the hope of day of reckoning ever present with them. That the reason of the unrest of all conquered people. Notwithstanding denials, it is felt in Alsace-Lorraine, while Belgium waits darkly for a day when her rights shall be restored and does not fear to show the spirit of rebellion where it is punished with imprisonment or death.

Chats With Virginia Editors

forelock in the following: "Now that it's too late to suggest that you do your Christmas shopping early, it might be in place to suggest it for next

Practically all the papers we see appear unanimously to have found Henry Ford guilty doing as he likes with his own money .- Big Stone Gap Post. Which is the right of every man, if he has any money of his own.

"Peace at Last in Mexico," is an editorial headline in the Danville Register. What is wanted is a peace to last .- Norfolk Virginian-Pilot. Was there ever a peace in Mexico that was lasting, or, in the nature of the case, can there ever

The pessimistic Covington Virginian remarked prosperity that is said to be sweeping over the country, we see mighty little hope for us at Christmas unless West Virginia pays that State

The Nelson County Times boasts as follows "Nelson County has the largest taxpayer in Virginia-Thomas F. Ryan, whose income return s frequently stated in newspapers as \$1,500,660 Major Dooley, of Richmond, who has a fine summer home in this county (on the Blue Ridge, near Afton), is taxed on an income of \$54,000.

The following is a sample of something like 100 clippings that might be made from last week's Virginia weeklies: "As has been our custom for many years past, this paper will not appear next week. The office force will be given a holiday for a week, so that they can enjoy the Christmas season. The paper will appear again on January 6."

What has become of the old-fashioned family Bible with the birth dates in it that used to repose on the parlor table alongside the fashioned album?-Columbia State. We know where one of them is, and it is the treasure of the library. It contains the record, not only the white members of the family, but of the egro members also.-Newport News Times. Herald. We can locate another.

News of Fifty Years Ago From the Richmond Dispatch, Dec. 27, 1865.)

The bark Queen Victoria, from Liverpool, laden with salt for Hichmond, has arrived safely at the mouth of the James, and will be at her designated wharf at Rocketts in a few days.

A caucus of all the Southern members of Congress-that is, members-elect-was held in Washington night before last, at which it was resolved to ask no more favors of Steens, Swaner & Co., but to go home and to remain there until some time after the 4th of March next. It will be a long time yet before South-ern members get into Congress.

General Grant having stated in his late offi-cial report that the Freedmen's Bureau was act-ing "as if independent of the military estab-lishment," General Howard has issued an order destroying that alleged independence and directing that all the operations of the bureau be carried on under and through the agency of the army officers.

The Potomac River is frozen from shore shore between Washington and Alexandria Yes-terday the busy steamers broke up the lee considerably, but unvigation is much impeded yet,

The receipts yesterday from the internal revenue were reported from Washington as being \$1,300,000, and the most of it comes from the bleeding South. How long must the South

may possess. If a woman is selfish—we say IF—it is regarded as so natural that all of her virtues are the more conspicuous.

The mouth is the hyphen between the cheeks. It is the middle ground between blushes.

The mouth is the hyphen between blushes. wards engaged in acts of war against the United States. The admiral made formal written protest against his arrest, stating that he was with and a part of General Joseph E. Johnston's army when the same was surrendered, that he was paroled to return to his home and there to remain undisturbed by United States authorities until regularly ex-changed, and therefore his arrest, under the circumstances, is a violation of the agreement so entered into on the part of the United States government. The admiral has raised point of law and usage, and it remains to be seen what will become of it; but in the meantime he is a prisoner.

> William Woods Holden, the much despised, is no longer Governor of North Carolina, pro-visional or otherwise. He has been relieved by President Johnson and Secretary Seward, and, in accordance with their orders, he has turned over to Governor Jonathan Worth the great seal of the State, the papers and the official property of the State which he has been holding as provisional Governor, and now Mr. Worth is the real Governor of North Carolina.

> We do not remember ever to have spent quiet a Christmas Day as the one just passed. The city was in excellent order; the best we have known since the new order of things, and there were fewer arrests than on any one day since evacuation. This paper has to report violations of law, and none growing out of the too plentiful flow of the ardent, the eggnog not excepted.

Major-General Robert Ranson, who was one bravest and one of the best of our Confederate generals, has been elected the captain of a militia company at Wilmington, N. C.

The contemplated insurrection of negroes in carious Southern cities, schedules for Christmas Day, did not occur. There were small clashes about in spots, but as a general the negroes in most Southern cities were like tiose in Richmond, quiet and willing enough to see the white people celebrate in their way and accept the bits from their tables.

Queries and Answers

A Date.

Please tell me what day of the week was Thristn'as Day in 1900. Tuesday.

Washington.

Was General Washington ever in Richmond for any considerable time? Did he ever have eadquarters here? It seems not. No.

Rallway Schedule. Did the New York Central ever have a time

from New York to Chicago as fast as sixteen hours?

A. R. V.

We cannot find any such schedule. The great train, the Twentieth Century Limited, takes nincteen hours now.

Old Song.

Can you locate for me the old song with the burden. "I Defy Thee to Forget"? W. B. We recall hearing it years ago and the same is true of some of the older musical people whom we have asked, but no one seems able to locate it, and none of the lists and reference etc., seems to contain it. reader be good enough to give the information?

Light Amid the Darkness

One of the Day's Best Cartoons.



From the Indianapolis News. AMERICA'S OLDEST RECORD

A small stone statuette found near particular characters are so elemental A small stone statuette found near particular characters are so elementar. Vera Cruz, Mexico, which has been in that only the date signs or numbers the possession of the United States National Museum since 1993, has recently a determining the date on this figure of the state of the possession of the Children of the state of the possession of the Children of the state of the possession of the Children of the state of the possession of the Children of the state of the possession of the Children of the state of the possession of the Children of the state of the children heen identified as the oldest known are, however, a most valuable clue or dated antiquity in America. Its ancient index to further research and investing Mayan glyphic inscriptions show that gatlon is gained by students of America.

which is the oldest date authenticated in the New World.

This unique image was originally found in 1902 by a peon while plowing in the district of San Andres Tuxtla, near the duif of Mexico, about 1906 miles southeast of Vera Cruz, Mexico, and came to the museum, through the courtesy of R. E. Ubricht, the next year. It is composed of very hard grayish-green stone, a variety of grayish-green stone, a variety of

graved.

On the front, back and sides of this little figure are the peculiar characters, called glyphs, in which the early ighabilitants of Southern Mexico and the northern part of Central America. habitants of Southern Mexico and the northern part of Central America, known as the Maya, wrote and recreded their early history and achievements. So far only calendric parts or the ancient inscription of the Maya have been deciphered, the chronological skeleton of Maya history, as it were, stripped of the events themselves, Thirty years ago Maya inscriptions of Vicatan, Chiapas, Thasee, and in adverse a sealed book, and yet to-day we were a sealed book, and yet to-day we joining Central American republies, but read of the rise and fall of the several one small group, the Huasteca, is cities in relation to one another, and found in Northern Vera Cruz. It does follow the course of the native development, even though we cannot fill in the of the State was at one time the the background several inscriptions is, of course, simi- have left us a key to the lar to more recent writings of the

it was made 199 years before Christ, ican archeology, the locality of the find the New World.

This unique image was originally possibly establishing the location of

The nature of the habitat of these ancient peoples who to more recent writings of this religion, language and customs in the prehistoric race, yet the forms of the stone manikin described above

For Safety Popular Mechanics.

In an attempt to provide safeguarding a Southern inventor has developed a in oil. He once remarked to the late mechanical apparatus which has elements of novelty and interest, even though the practicability of all its fea-

Primarily the contrivance consists of two large steel cylinders mounted in a frame attached beneath and at the sides of an engine cab, immediately under Helland are English roast beef and the sexts. The cylinders are made of boiler plate re-enforced on the inside with a series of channel irons that enable it to withstand a crushing of as much as 500 tons. By pulling a fever, the seats upon which an operator is sitting is released. This drops him, seat and all, into the cylinder, which is then closed mechanically

Besides offering the engine crew an avenue of escape, the apparatus per-forms the duties of both the engineer and fireman after they have abandoned the locomotive. In this way the welfare of passengers abourd a train is looked after. When in order to save his life. drops him into the cylinder, the action simultaneously throttles the engine, applies sand to the rails, sets the

Life of a Dollar Hill.

A statistician who hangs arou: the national strong-box figures out that the average life of a dollar big is three weeks, but he doesn't reveal the secre of this prodigious prolongation of life The dollar bills with which most of When twinght splendors burn and us are familiar expire in a few min-utes, or at best a few hours. Compared with the average dollar bill the morning glory is a marvel of lengevity. The tender infant—maybe 'hat's why it's called legal tender-hardly comes into your hands ere it becomes an adult, and almost before you know it the blasted and withered veteran has passed to the bourne of memory We mourn many a sweet William which, for its tender brief existence, might be said to have perished at birth, and many another whose untimely end in the morning of life caused bitter grief. A statistician who could show us how to keep a dollar bill alive three weeks at a time like this, when the mortality is so heavy, generally speak-ing, would earn the Cratitude and admiration of the community. A statis tician who could really keep a dollar, dead or alive, for such a time would tempt many of us to become statisticians, if possible. But the sad statistician does it only on paper.-New York World.

What Rulers Eat Chicago Herald.

Czar Nicholas of Russia is fond of provide a fish of any kind. He is especially par-locomotive tial to dried codfish seasone t with oil. engineers and firemen against serious peoper and garlie. Even better the injury and death in railway accidents Czar likes kabeljau, codlinga prepared

> "I could eat codlings twice a day The King of Italy and King Alfonso of Spain have a weakness for sweet it igs, such as whipped event, chocolate and tarts.

> averite of the King of Emperor of the

particular country. King Victor Em-numucal of Halv deal, res his great lik-tury for polenta, the Indian meal per-, which he eats regularly as the ext pensant. He also likes roas Vicena schnitzel is a favorite dish of the Emperor of Austria. The Emperor is also fond of calvest tongue in red

The Czar of Russia, however does no rare for eavier, the prepared stur-geon roc, which is the daily dish of the Russian peasantry, Instead, he is unusually fond of certain Russian vegetable soups called borscht and

The late Pope is said to have lived airbrakes, dumns the fire and pours on a very simple dict, as simple extinguishing agents upon it.

The late lope is said to have in a revery simple dict, as simple that of the poorest tradescare. In morning he drank a cup of coffee, at noon he took a little soup and meat, and for supper vegetables and meat. His favorite food was the Italian national dish, polenta.

The Soul's Immortal Youth.

beek on. Rekindling hopes, consuming fears. Why do we vainly seek to reckor By scores and tens the passing years?

Say, if you please, the body dieth; We could not if we would grow old Against that fate all Nature crieth By signs and symbols manifold.

Three score and ten! It brings no message Of coming doom or closing strife. No deep significance or presige That bears upon our daily life.

The wheels of time roll on forever,

As they forever more have rolled, Beginning not, nor ceasing ever; How could we ever, then, grow old? seem to stand upon the cortal

But is not this the simple truth; What once has lived must be immor-

Our real life immortal youth?
--Springfield Republican,